

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEGUCI 01767 112151Z
ACTION SNM-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 L-03 /019 W
-----088078 112155Z /61
P 112047Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 039

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEGUCIGALPA 1767

STADIS//////////

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: SNAR, HO
SUBJ: ALLEGED STATE RESTRICTION OF DEA

REF: STATE 83084

1. IN RESPONSE TO THE REFTEL REQUEST THIS EMBASSY CAN ASSURE THE DEPARTMENT THAT NEITHER THE AMBASSADOR, THE DCM NOR THE NARCOTICS COORDINATOR AT THIS POST HAS TAKEN ANY ACTION WHICH MIGHT BE CONSTRUED AS EITHER RESTRAINING DEA OR VETOING ITS OPERATIONS.

2. ON THE CONTRARY, ALL PERSONNEL HERE HAVE BEEN PROMPT TO RESPOND TO NEMEROUS REQUESTS FROM DEA AND OTHER AGENCIES FOR ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT IN SEVERAL PHASES OF NARCOTICS CONTROL. THIS EMBASSY HAS, IN FACT, GONE FURTHER TO UNDERTAKE WITH DEA NEW INITIATIVES AIMED AT SUPPRESSING INCREASED TRAFFICKING INVOLVING HONDURAS. WE PLAYED A KEY ROLE, I BELIEVE, IN HONDURAS' ADOPTION LAST MONTH OF A STRONG LAW ON NARCOTICS PRODUCTION, SALE AND TRAFFICKING. OUR PROPOSAL FOR SURVEILLANCE OF 21 SUSPECTED VESSELS OF HONDURAS REGISTRY WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN THE INTERCEPTION OF SIX OF THEM INVOLVED IN TRANSPORTING UP TO 100 TONS OF MARIHUANA TO THE US AND THE CESSATION OF SUCH SHIPMENTS IN FEBRUARY 1978. BECAUSE OF INCREASING SIGNS OF "HONDURAS CONNECTIONS" IN MAJOR COCAINE AND MARIHUANA TRAFFICKING, WE PROPOSED THE AS-

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PAGE 02 TEGUCI 01767 112151Z

SIGNMENT HERE OF A DEA AGENT, SUGGESTED TO THE GOH THE CREATION OF A SPECIAL HONDURAS NARCOTICS TASK FORCE AND ASKED THE DEPARTMENT AND DEA FOR ASSISTANCE IN ESTABLISHING THIS GROUP. THE DEA AGENT ARRIVED HERE LAST WEEK ON TDY AND IS RECEIVING FULL SUPPORT. THE GOH HAS ESTABLISHED THE SPECIAL NARCOTICS GROUP WITH HAND-PICKED, WELL-MOTIVATED MEN. WE ANTICIPATE THAT THE REQUESTED TRAINING, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND FUNDING TO HELP MAKE THIS

GROUP FULLY EFFECTIVE WILLBE FORTHCOMING.

3. FURTHER DETAILS OF THIS EMBASSY'S NARCOTICS CONTROL
EFFORTS ARE CONTAINED IN MY RECENT LETTER TO MS MATHEA FALCO,
THE SECRETARY'S SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR NARCOTICS.
JARAMILLO

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Message Attributes

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